

HEALTH & WELFARE

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To:

Developmental Disabilities Agencies (DDA)

Developmental Disabilities Service Coordination Agencies

From:

Leslie M. Clement, Administrator

Division of Medicaid

Subject:

Weekly Prior Authorization Requirement for Developmental Therapy

The Department of Health and Welfare has previously approved prior authorization (PA) requests for developmental therapy (DT) services on a units per week, units per month, or units per year basis. In order to ensure one consistent statewide process, all **new** requests for PA will only be approved in units per week.

Initial and annual plans for DT services submitted after March 31, 2008, will be prior authorized as weekly units. The shift to weekly PA units will occur over the next year. Participants who currently have DT services approved in units per month or units per year do not require a plan addendum. This change will occur in conjunction with their next annual plan.

To simplify recordkeeping requirements for Developmental Disability Agencies, separate PAs will not be required for group center-based DT services (H2032 HQ), and group home-based and group community-based DT services (97537 HQ). Authorizations for these group modalities will be combined with authorizations for the primary procedure codes (H2032 individual center, 97537 individual home-based and individual community-based).

The individual and group DT services in a center, home, or community environment must be differentiated on the service plan as currently required. Addendums will still be necessary to reflect changes in services upon the individual service plan. New PAs will be required only when there is a revision to the total number of center, home, or community-based hours on the authorization. Providers must always use and follow the individual service plan and addendums in regard to the hours authorized for each therapy service.

Please contact your Regional Medicaid Services (RMS) office if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation in the Idaho Medicaid program.

LMC/rs